

REMARKS

This Response addresses the issues raised by the Examiner in the Office Action mailed June 2, 2004. Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given this case and for indicating the allowance of Claims 1-39 and for indicating allowable subject matter in Claims 50-56, 63, 64, 79 and 81-90. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, Applicants feel that all outstanding issues have been addressed and prompt allowance of all remaining claims is respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

The Examiner indicated allowance of Claims 1-39. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication and have not altered these claims.

Claim Objections and Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to Claims 50-56, 63, 64, 79 and 81-90 as being dependent on a rejected base independent claim, and indicated that these claims would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended the claims indicated as objectionable by the Examiner to address the Examiner's concerns, and each of these claims is in condition for final allowance.

Rejected Claims

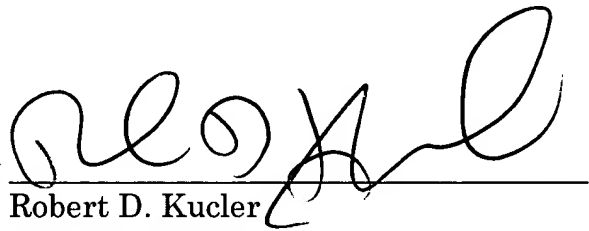
The Examiner rejected Claims 40-49, 57-62, 65-78 and 80 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0091569 to Kitaura ("Kitaura"). Without commenting on Kitaura, Applicants have cancelled Claims 40-49, 57-62, 65-78 and 80 in order to bring the present prosecution to a successful conclusion. Applicants specifically reserve their right to reintroduce these cancelled claims in a related application.

The above amendments and accompanying remarks address each and every issue raised by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicants believe that all claims of the present invention are now in condition for final allowance. If the Examiner feels that any issues remain outstanding, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's attorney at the contact information below.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 2, 2004

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert D. Kucler', written over a horizontal line.

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